

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**JAEGER TO PRESIDE OVER MEETING TO CERTIFY
NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS**

Bismarck, ND – Secretary of State Al Jaeger will preside over the meeting of the State Canvassing Board on Thursday, November 21, 2002, which will certify the results from the November 5 general election.

During the meeting, the board will open and review the original election abstracts sent to the Secretary of State's office by county auditors. The counties finished their canvassing duties on November 12. The board will then certify the votes cast for the various offices and identify any automatic or demand recounts. The meeting of the State Canvassing Board marks the official conclusion to the 2002 election season.

The action of the State Canvassing Board is an administrative function provided by state law and is designed to bring closure to the election, identify any necessary recounts, and certify the candidates who were elected.

Jaeger will issue certificates of election notifying winning candidates of their election along with their requirement to complete and file oaths with his office before taking office and assuming their official responsibilities.

The board consists of the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Clerk of the Supreme Court, and representatives of the two major political parties organized in the state, the Republican and Democratic-NPL parties.

The meeting will convene at 1:00 p.m. in the Secretary of State's office located on the first floor of the state capitol and will likely conclude by 4:30 p.m.

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